

## CHARACTER BUILDING

## SIMPLICITY

Fernando Maria Guerrero is rightly called "the poet of the revolution." Most of his verses were written during the revolution. They were dictated while guns were roaring. They were recited on the countryside and in the battlefields. The Filipino soldiers who fought in the trenches knew his poems by heart. With the help of his beautiful words, they felt strong enough to face the powerful guns of their enemies.

At heart, this great poet was a very simple man. His simplicity was shown in his manners and his habits. He always dressed in white. His hats were either felt or straw. His neck ties were of the quietest colors. He never wore red neck ties. Sometimes he wore violets on the lapel of his coat. He liked brown shoes because they looked like the earth. The cigarettes and cigars that he smoked were Philippine products. He drank very little wine.

He was a very shy man. Whenever young men visited his daughters, he ran upstairs and quietly



stayed there until these visitors had gone. And yet, when he had a just cause, he did not hesitate to fight. His work in the battlefield was to print encouraging verses and articles about his country. He worked like an ant who was not frightened by the noise and the fire. To him is given the honor of seeking more freedom for the press. He believed that the pen is as mighty as the sword in getting recognition for his country.

## S a m p a g u i t a

Words from  
OUR SCHOOLS

Music by  
ANTONIO MUÑOZ  
Tanjay, Negros Oriental

*Moderato*

A sampaguita sweet on I, who loves the month of May—  
— The fair ones to our Virgins, With me their hom-age pay-- A-  
— round the neck of beauty, I throw a charm di-vine of  
fragrance and in-no-cence Un-spoiled. What luck is mine!